

We claim:

1. A method of obtaining and displaying to a user information that is of interest to an individual associated with the user comprising:

5 storing in a user database profile data for the individual, said profile data including at least one keyphrase associated with the individual;

searching in at least one external database for objects in which the keyphrase is utilized;

retrieving the objects in which the keyphrase is utilized; and

10 associating the retrieved objects to the individual with whom the keyphrase is associated.

2.. A method of providing a user with information that is of interest to a group of individuals associated with the user comprising:

15 storing in a user database profile data for each individual in the group, said profile data including at least one keyphrase associated with at least one of the individuals in the group;

searching in at least one external database for objects in which the keyphrase is utilized;

retrieving the objects in which the keyphrase is utilized;

20 associating the retrieved objects to at least one individual in the group with whom the keyphrase is associated; and

displaying to the user, the keyphrase, a list of the objects in which the keyphrase is utilized, and a list of the individuals associated with the keyphrase.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the profile data for the group of individuals is initially stored in a profile database, and the step of storing the profile data in the user database includes importing the profile data from the profile database into the user database.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein the profile data includes an electronic address for each individual, and the method further comprises electronically communicating the retrieved objects from the user to the individuals associated with the keyphrase.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the user is a service provider, the individuals are customers of the user, the objects are news articles of interest to the user's customers, and the step of electronically communicating the objects includes the steps of:

storing the news articles in which the keyphrase is utilized in a memory; and

interfacing the memory with a communication application that electronically communicates the news articles selected by the service provider to customers selected by the service provider.

6. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of automatically searching in at least one external database includes automatically searching in the external database on a schedule defined by the user.

7. A system for obtaining and displaying to a user information that is of interest to an individual associated with the user, comprising:

a user database for storing profile data for the individual, said profile data including at least one keyphrase associated with the individual;

5 a search engine that searches in at least one external database and retrieves objects in which the keyphrase is utilized; and

a component for associating the retrieved objects to the individual with whom the keyphrase is associated.

8. A system for providing a user with information that is of interest to a group of individuals associated with the user comprising:

10 a user database for storing profile data for each individual in the group, said profile data including, for at least one individual, at least one keyphrase associated with the individual;

15 a search engine that searches in at least one external database and retrieves objects in which the keyphrase is utilized;

a component for associating the retrieved objects with at least one individual in the group with whom the keyphrase is associated; and

20 a user display that displays to the user the keyphrase, a list of the objects in which the keyphrase is utilized, and a list of the individuals associated with the keyphrase.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the profile data for the group of individuals is initially stored in a profile database, and the system further

comprises a component for importing the profile data from the profile database into the user database.

10. The system of claim 8 wherein the profile data includes an electronic address for each individual, and the system further comprises a component  
5 for electronically communicating the objects in which the keyphrase is utilized from the user to the individuals associated with the keyphrase.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the user is a relationship manager, the individuals are clients of the user, and the objects are news articles of interest to the user's clients.

10 12. The system of claim 11 wherein the component for electronically communicating the objects includes:

a memory for storing the news articles in which the keyphrase is utilized; and

15 a communication application interfaced with the memory that electronically communicates the news articles selected by the relationship manager to clients selected by the relationship manager.

13. The system of claim 8 further comprising:

a memory for storing the retrieved objects;

20 a component for creating a document by the user that includes a component for copying information from a stored object and pasting the copied information in the document; and

a communication application interfaced with the component for creating a document that electronically communicates the document created by the user to individuals selected by the user.

14. The system of claim 8 wherein the search engine includes a scheduler that causes the search engine to automatically search in the external database on a schedule defined by the user.

15. A method of identifying in a group of individuals at least one individual that has an interest in information that a user possesses comprising:

storing in a user database profile data for each individual in the group, said profile data including, for each individual in the group, at least one keyphrase associated with the interest of the individual;

searching, in the information possessed by the user, for any of the keyphrases associated with the interests of the individuals in the group; and

identifying the individuals in the group for whom an associated keyphrase was found in the information searched by the user.

16. A system for providing a user with information that is of interest to a group of individuals associated with the user comprising:

means for storing profile data for each individual in the group, said profile data including, for at least one individual, at least one keyphrase associated with the individual;

means for object importing, said means for object importing including means for copying information from a stored object and pasting the copied information in the system;

means for associating the imported object to at least one individual in the group with whom the keyphrase is associated; and

user display means that displays to the user the keyphrase, the imported object in which the keyphrase is utilized, and a list of the individuals associated with the keyphrase.

17. The system of claim 16 further comprising:

memory means for storing the imported object;

means for adding a keyphrase to the imported object including means for associating a keyphrase with the imported object;

means for searching associated the keyphrase and retrieving individual profiles in which the keyphrase is utilized; and

a communication application means interfaced with the means for object importing that electronically communicates the imported object to individuals selected by the user.